



2013 Domaine Grand Veneur Chateauneuf du Pape Vieilles Vignes

A Grenache Dry Red Table wine from France, Chateauneuf du Pape, Southern Rhone, Rhone, France

Review by Jeb Dunnuck

eRobertParker.com # 221 (Oct 2015)

Rating: 95

Drink 2015 - 2030

Cost: \$80-\$96

In the top 1-2 wines of the vintage, the 2013 Châteauneuf du Pape Vieilles Vignes is a Mourvedre shifted blend of 40% Grenache, 40% Mourvedre and 20% Syrah that saw 16 months in 60% small barrels, with the balance in concrete tanks. There's just over 400 cases produced and this inky colored, beautifully concentrated effort offers loads of roasted meats, licorice, chocolate and sweet black fruits. Seamless, sexy and seamless, with uncommon polish and ripeness to its tannin, it will have 10-15+ years of longevity. The Jaume family continues to release a massive lineup of high quality wines from throughout the Southern Rhône. In 2013 they purchased the Château Mazane estate in Vacqueyras, and while a large portion of their Vacqueyras Grande Garrigue came from this estate, they now also release a 100% estate Vacqueyras Château Mazane that's all from the new property. It's a cellar selection over the Grande Garrigue and sees a slightly different élevage, but I find the quality between the two cuvees similar. The only other new change is the addition of the Le Miocène label to their traditional red and white Châteauneuf du Pape releases. Le Miocène translates to "beginning of an era", but there is no change to the actual wine. At the end of the day, you can't go wrong here and the portfolio is packed with both quality and value. Importer(s): Kysela Pere et Fils, 331 Victory Road, Winchester, VA, (540) 722-9228, www.kysela.com

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Like this estate's Les Origines cuvée, the 2013 Châteauneuf du Pape Vieilles Vignes will be a candidate for the wine of the vintage. In fact, it's shocking how good this wine is. Made from 40% Grenache, 40% Mourvedre and 20% Syrah that will age 60% in barrel and 40% in concrete tank, it has fabulous dark fruits, graphite, chocolate and minerality in its full-bodied, concentrated profile. The wood component is nicely integrated, and while it has masses of tannin, they're polished and sweet. It should benefit from short term-cellarage and evolve nicely for 10-15 years. This estate, under the leadership of Sebastien and Christophe Jaume, continues to be one of the reference point producers for relatively modern styled Châteauneuf du Papes. In addition to their top tier efforts, the portfolio is loaded with smoking values at just about every price point. I've listed domaine wines under Domaine Grand Veneur, and the negociant wines under Alain Jaume, which I believe might also include some vineyards owned by the Jaume family as well. Regardless, the quality here is superb across the

range. In addition, they've excelled in both 2012 and 2013. Importer(s): Kysela Pere et Fils, 331 Victory Road, Winchester, VA, (540) 722-9228, www.kysela.com
